Capsule Summary PG:62-87

Building 208 – Swine Feed Barn & Farrowing Facility USDA Bureau of Engraving and Printing EIS Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland 1940

Building 208 was constructed in 1940 and used as a Swine Feed Barn and Farrowing Facility on the Central Farm within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Research Service's Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). It was built in an area used by the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI). The extant Building 208 exhibits a ca. 1950 addition that lengthened the original 1940 structure and a ca. 1985 northwest addition.

Building 208 is an irregular, single-story structure oriented on an east-west axis with concrete block walls that support a side-gabled roof covered in sheet metal. The main section is 112' long and 32' wide with a non-historic northwest addition constructed ca. 1985 that is approximately 60' long and 32' wide. There are three metal roof ventilators on the interior slope of the main section's south roof; the addition has one metal roof ventilator; there are four, interior slope roof vents on the north side of the main section in aerial view. The south façade has no fenestration. There are also eleven pen doors on the south side of the main section that access eleven associated fence-enclosed pens. West of the pens on the south side there are two silos. Exterior ornamentation includes louvered wall vents on the south side and roof vents on the west section. Neither the east, west, nor north facades were visible from the right-of-way for a description. However, aerial photographs show nine pens on the north side of the building.

Building 208 is located on BARC's 2,980-acre Central Farm, the largest and oldest of all of BARC's farms. The USDA acquired the Central Farm in stages between 1910 and 1939; most of the buildings and landscape of the Central Farm were developed between 1911 and 1944. During the 1920s, the BAI's Animal Husbandry Division led the continued development of the site and was the largest section (i.e., in terms of both areas occupied and staff) at BARC. The division's research initially focused on the breeding of all domestic animals, except dairy (Robinson and Associates 1998). The BAI transferred other divisions to BARC during the late 1920s and early 1930s using New Deal funding sources at the Central and East Farms; the Swine Research unit was relocated from the Central Farm to the East Farm during the period between 1938 and 1942 (Robinson and Associates 1998). Over the years, the BAI's Animal Husbandry Division undertook critical poultry and swine research that improved the size and health of the farm animals; the BAI's researchers conducted important research at BARC that led to major improvements in eradicating and treating contagious diseases in farm animals, reducing parasite infestations, and improving nutrition.

In 1997, BARC determined eligible for individual listing in the National Register for Historic Places (NRHP) as the largest national research facility for the USDA and for its role as the most diversified agricultural research complex in the world. The evaluation finds that while Building 208 is not individually significant, it contributes to the overall significance of BARC. Building 208 is a contributing property within BARC under Criterion A at the national level for its historical association with agricultural experimentation and under Criterion C as it embodies the distinctive characteristics of experimental agricultural architecture.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ____

DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM no
Property Name: Buildig 208: Swine Feed Barn & Farrowing Facility Inventory Number: PG:82-87
Address: 10300 Baltimore Avenue Building 208, Central Farm, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center Historic district: X yes no
City: Beltsville Zip Code: 20705 County: Prince Georges
USGS Quadrangle(s): Beltsville
Property Owner: U.S.A U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Tax Account ID Number: 01-0070151
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 0143 Tax Map Number: 0019
Project: Bureau of Engraving and Printing EIS Agency: USACE-Baltimore District
Agency Prepared By: AECOM
Preparer's Name: Kisa Hooks Date Prepared: 7/15/2020
Documentation is presented in: MIHP Form, PG:62-14
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: X Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: X A B X C D Considerations: A B C D E F G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: Beltsville Agricultural Research Center
Inventory Number: PG:62-14 Eligible: X yes Listed: yes
Site visit by MHT Staff yesX_ no Name: Date:
Description of Property and Justification: (Please attach map and photo) The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Research Service's (ARS) Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) was one of the largest agricultural research facilities in the United States (Figures 1 and 2). Owned by the USDA, the facility was established in Beltsville in 1910 and significantly expanded in the 1930s and 1940s. In the 1960s, the USDA's resear program began evolving from an internationally recognized research center to a decentralized model. In 1984, BARC was redesignated as a regional center. BARC's period of significance ranges from its inception in 1910 to its reclassification as a region center in 1984. BUILDING LOCATION BARC identifies the address of Building 208 as 10300 Baltimore Avenue, Building 208, Central Farm. Building 208 is located or Animal Husbandry Road, approximately 1,320 feet north of its eastern intersection with Powder Mill Road.
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW
Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: __A __B __C __D Considerations: __A __B __C __D __E __F __G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services ______ Date

Reviewer, National Register Program ______ Date

BUILDING DESCRIPTION

Located in the USDA ARS BARC's Central Farm (Figures 3 through 6), Building 208 (Photo 1) was built as originally built as a Swine Feed Barn. Building 208 became known as Swine Farrowing Facility after its ca. 1985 addition was complete; the addition replaced the former Building 208G, Swine Farrowing Facility, that was demolished by 1984. A chain link fence surrounds the area thus only the south side of Building 208 was visible from the fenced enclosure; aerial photography supports the description. Building 208 is an irregular, single-story structure oriented on an east-west axis with concrete block walls that support a side-gabled roof covered in sheet metal. The main section is 112' long and 32' wide with a non-historic northwest addition constructed ca. 1985 that is approximately 60' long and 32' wide (USDA 1984) (Google 2019). There are three metal roof ventilators on the interior slope of the main section's south roof; the addition has one metal roof ventilator; there are four, interior slope roof vents on the north side of the main section in aerial view (Google 2019). The south façade has no fenestration. There are also eleven pen doors on the south side of the main section that access eleven associated fence-enclosed pens. West of the pens on the south side there are two silos. Exterior ornamentation includes louvered wall vents on the south side and roof vents on the west section. Neither the east, west, nor north facades were visible from the right-of-way for a description. However, aerial photographs show nine pens on the north side of the building (Google 2019).

Building 208 is in fair condition.

HISTORY OF PROPERTY

Central Farm

Building 208, constructed in 1940, is located on the 2,980-acre Central Farm. The largest and oldest of all of BARC's farms, the USDA acquired the Central Farm in stages between 1910 and 1939; most of the buildings and landscape of the Central Farm were developed between 1911 and 1944. The Central Farm is located at the center of BARC and is adjacent to BARC's Linkage Farm to the west, single-family homes along Odell Road to the north, facilities associated with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and U.S. Department of State (DOS) to the northeast, the Baltimore-Washington Parkway to the east, and the City of Greenbelt to the south. The Central Farm has approximately 12 clusters of buildings situated on approximately 336 acres (of the 2,980-acre total), as well as pastures, wetlands, and forested areas used for animal husbandry, production crops, animal and plant research, and wildlife management. The USDA's Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) has historically been the Central Farm's main user (Robinson and Associates 1998).

The USDA acquired the first portion of the Central Farm in 1910 when it purchased 475 acres of the Hall Farm for the Farm Dairy and Animal Husbandry Divisions of the BAI to establish an experimental farm. To accommodate the experimental farm's many research tasks during BARC's early period (i.e., 1910-1933), the USDA constructed laboratories, farm buildings, pastures, and staff housing. In addition, the BAI added laboratories for its Pathology and Zoological Divisions.

In the 1920s, the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) began to operate at BARC on approximately 425 acres of leased land that was subsequently purchased with Public Works Administration (PWA) funds in the 1930s, expanding the Central Farm (Wiser and Rasmussen 1966; USDA c. 1937). In 1924, the Farm Dairy and Animal Husbandry Divisions separated into the Bureau of Dairy Industry (BDI) and the BAI. The BDI used 190 acres for continued experiments on dairy cattle breeding, forage crop, silage, and milk research, and the BAI kept 285 acres for its animal research. By 1925, the USDA owned 1,062 acres of the Central Farm and leased about 1,000 more acres (Wiser and Rasmussen 1966). By 1933, four land purchases totaling an additional 1,381 acres further increased the Central Farm's size (USDA c. 1937, Robinson and Associates 1998).

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The majority of the Central Farm was acquired under New Deal policies and funding of the 1930s, when the USDA transformed BARC into a model experiment station. A series of land acquisitions during the 1930s grew BARC to more than 12,000 acres. With this expansion, many of the Bureaus either established, enlarged, or constructed new research facilities on the Central Farm. These included the BAI's pathology, zoology, and insecticide divisions, the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, the Bureau of Cultural and Industrial Chemistry, and the Food and Drug Administration (Robinson and Associates 1998).

The expansion of BARC required major infrastructure improvements that were undertaken with PWA funding and oversight, and Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) assistance and labor. A CCC camp was established on the north end of the Central Farm in 1933; eventually, four CCC camps were established at BARC, although their exact locations are not known. The CCC workers cleared and drained land, built fences and roads, and constructed small sheds and structures. The overall design of the Central Farm in the 1930s was guided by a master plan that was the work of A.D. Taylor and Delos Smith; H.F. Seahorn of the Public Buildings Administration; Robert T. Walker, CCC landscape architect; and Hugh H. Bennet of the Soil Conservation Service (Robinson and Associates 1998). The Central Farm's character-defining landscape features include:

- Topographical and anthropogenically altered features, such as major paved roads, minor service and field roads, drainage systems, Beaver Dam Creek, and graded fields;
- Vegetation features, such as field and research crops, pastures, Beltsville Seasonal Ponds, Beltsville Bottomland Forest, and meadows;
- Circulation features, such as Dairy Farm, Powder Mill, Entomology, Research, BioControl, Poultry, and Beaver Dam Roads, as well as secondary and service roads;
- Five main clusters of development, including the 100 Area Cluster (BDI), 200 Area Cluster (BAI Poultry Research Division), 300 Area Cluster (BAI Parasitological Laboratory of the Zoological Division), 400 Area Cluster (Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine [BEPQ] Entomology Research Division), and 1000 Area Cluster (Animal Disease Station); and
- Small-scale features, such as fencing, culverts, an amphitheater, and a cemetery (Robinson and Associates 1998).

Bureau of Animal Industry

The USDA's BAI, the earliest of the USDA's research bureaus at BARC, came to the Central Farm in 1910 when its Dairy and Animal Husbandry Divisions established an experimental farm within BARC's initial 475 acres. When the USDA reorganized the Dairy Division into a separate BDI, the BAI retained 285 acres of the Central Farm for its Animal Husbandry Division. During the 1920s, the BAI's Animal Husbandry Division led the continued development of the site and was the largest section (i.e., in terms of both areas occupied and staff) at BARC. The division's research initially focused on the breeding of all domestic animals, except dairy (Robinson and Associates 1998).

By the early 1930s, the BAI's Animal Husbandry Division's needs far exceeded its facilities. To address these needs, the PWA allotted over \$1 million for a major construction program at BARC that included laboratories, an abattoir (slaughterhouse), and animal buildings. These facilities were constructed at BARC with the assistance of CCC workers, with funding and oversight provided by the PWA and the Civil Works Administration. A new Main Laboratory (i.e., Building 200), constructed under this program, was the showpiece of the new animal husbandry area.

As a result of the expansion, by the mid-1930s, the BAI's Animal Husbandry Division was the largest experimental farm in the country and the center of nation's research on animal husbandry (Robinson and Associates 1998). In addition to animal husbandry, the BAI transferred other divisions to BARC during the late 1920s and early 1930s using New Deal funding sources at the Central

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and East Farms. The BAI's Zoological Division moved its experimental headquarters to, and the BAI's Animal Disease Station was established at BARC's Central Farm in 1929 and expanded in 1935 (Robinson and Associates 1998).

In 1953, the USDA undertook a major reorganization and decentralization of the USDA's agricultural research program that continued through the 1970s (Office of Technology Assessment [OTA] 1981). The decentralization had long-lasting consequences for BARC. The department's scientific bureaus, including the BAI, were discontinued and the department's research functions were centralized under the new Agricultural Research Administration (now the ARS) (OTA 1981). The USDA again reorganized in 1972 with administrative decentralization as its goal (OTA 1981). Through this process, operating responsibility was delegated to four regions, which were then subdivided into research area centers. BARC's scientists and facilities thus became a regional research facility, rather than a national one (OTA 1981). By 1980, the USDA's research program was highly decentralized, with research undertaken at 148 locations, including the much diminished 450-scientist facility at BARC (OTA 1981).

Over the years, the BAI's researchers conducted important research at BARC that has led to major improvements in eradicating and treating contagious diseases in farm animals, reducing parasite infestations, and improving nutrition. The BAI's Animal Husbandry Division undertook critical poultry and swine research that improved the size and health of the farm animals. The BAI's Zoology Division's parasite research brought innovative new approaches to treating infestations. The BAI's Animal Disease Station developed vaccines to prevent Bang's disease and developed sterilization methods for contaminated hides (Robinson and Associates 1998).

History of the Swine Feed Barn & Farrowing Facility, Building 208

There are original design drawings for Building 208 on file with the USDA Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Division of Plans and Service (BAE) (Figure 7). Building 208 is also depicted on original design drawings for Building 208G, the Swine Farrowing Facility completed on August 14, 1974 that was formerly located 20' west of Building 208 (USDA 1974) (Figure 8). Building 208G was subsequently demolished by 1984 to make room for ca. 1985 addition to Building 208 the incorporated the Swine Farrowing Facility with the Swine Feeding Barn (Figure 9).

The Building 208 depicted in 1940 plans was a symmetric, side-gabled concrete block structure approximately 92' long and 32' wide with three, center ridge metal roof ventilators and eight six-over-six windows on each side (USDA 1940). There were eight pens on the south side and six on the north side. The 1972 plans of Building 208G depict a Building 208 with a 112' long by 32' wide footprint which suggests the 1940 building was elongated by 20' circa 1950. The ca. 1950 date derives from the 1996 BARC Master Plan Update Building List, Central Farm Table. The extant Building 208 fits the footprint depicted in 1972 with a northwest addition (USDA 1974). The 1940 Building 208 is no longer evident given: i) window enclosures, there are no windows on the south side; ii) the center ridge ventilators were relocated to the interior slopes such that there are three and two on the south and north slopes, respectively; iii) an addition three pens on both sides; and iv) the northwest addition.

The Building List, Central Farm Table of the 1996 BARC Master Plan Update identifies Building 208 as a 2,940 square foot Hog Barn constructed in 1950 but no other building-specific information (Young 1996).

Building 208 is in good condition.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION

Building 208 was evaluated in 1997 to determine the building's individual significance or status as a contributing or non-contributing property at BARC, a 6,582-acre federal agricultural research facility. BARC was determined eligible in its entirety for

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listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as the largest national research facility for the USDA and for its role as the most diversified agricultural research complex in the world. That evaluation determined Building 208 to be eligible for listing in the NRHP as a contributing property within BARC. This evaluation concurs that while Building 208 is not individually significant, it contributes to the overall significance of BARC. The history and development of the agricultural research facility also reflects New Deal policies and programs, and contains notable landscape architecture, Georgian Revival architecture, and experimental agricultural architecture. The criteria applied to evaluate properties for the NRHP are presented below.

Under Criterion A, Building 208 is a contributing property within BARC, which is significant at the national level for its association with events that have made significant contributions to the broad pattern of our history with agricultural experimentation. Many aspects of twentieth century living for the farmer and consumer were influenced by the scientific research conducted at BARC. BARC is a prominent example of the federal role in agricultural research, scientific agricultural research in general, and New Deal policies and programs, such as the 1930s agricultural policies and funding, the PWA, and the CCC, which all played important roles in shaping the experimental farm. BARC's scientists and researchers have made major contributions toward scientific knowledge that have resulted in incredible advances in crop production, plant and animal disease control, and pest control. Building 208 was specifically designed and operated as a swine feed barn and farrowing facility within the BAI's 200 Area Cluster - Poultry Research Division. BARC scientists and researchers made valuable scientific contributions, both in foundational and applicable science.

BARC and Building 208 have not been determined significant under Criterion B for its association with the lives of persons significant in our past.

Under Criterion C, Building 208 is a contributing property within BARC, as it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. The physical appearance of BARC was strongly influenced in the 1930s by the planning team of A.D. Taylor, landscape architect, and Delos Smith, architect. The majority of BARC's buildings share a Georgian Revival style and/or display the characteristics of experimental agricultural architecture. BARC's landscape includes major paved roads, minor service roads, field and research crops, pasture lands, seasonal ponds, forests, sustainable meadows, and other landscape features and buildings. Building 208, while relatively modest in design, represents an example of the experimental and purpose-driven agricultural architecture trends for which BARC is significant, and contributes to the overall landscape.

Neither BARC nor Building 208 specifically has been evaluated under Criterion D for its yielding, or likelihood to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Building 208 retains its original location and setting within an agricultural research complex. Building 208 is specifically linked in its design and operation as a swine feed barn and farrowing facility and its ties to the BAI's 200 Area Cluster (Poultry Research Division) research buildings. The feeling of, and association with, an agricultural research center is intact. Building 208 maintains key elements of its original design including massing, fenestration, roofing pattern, cladding, and internal layouts. Building 208 retains its integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. Building 208 is in fair condition.

Building 208 does not reach the level of significance necessary for individual listing on the NRHP although it does contribute to the significance within BARC under Criteria A and C.

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-	Reviewer, National Register Program							Date				

REFERENCES

Bernard Johnson Young Inc. (BJY)

Beltsville Agricultural Research Center 1996 Master Plan Update, Master Plan Report. September. On file, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Information Repository, Document Accession Number: F-01-0001.

Google Earth

Available on Google Earth. Available on Google Earth.

Office of Technology Assessment (OTA), U.S. Food and Agricultural Research Advisory Panel

1981 An Assessment of the United States Food and Agricultural Research System. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

 $https://books.google.com/books?id=0Muy9v0PQckC\&lpg=PA29\&dq=The\%20Role\%20and\%20Development\%20of\%20Public\%20Agricultural\%20Research\&pg=PA29\#v=onepage\&q\&f=false\ (accessed\ June\ 2020).$

Robinson and Associates

1998 Historic Site Survey, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Maryland. On file at the Maryland Historical Trust.

Wiser, Vivian and Wayne D. Rasmussen

1966 "Background for Plenty: A National Center for Agricultural Research." Maryland Historical Magazine 61:4, December 1966.

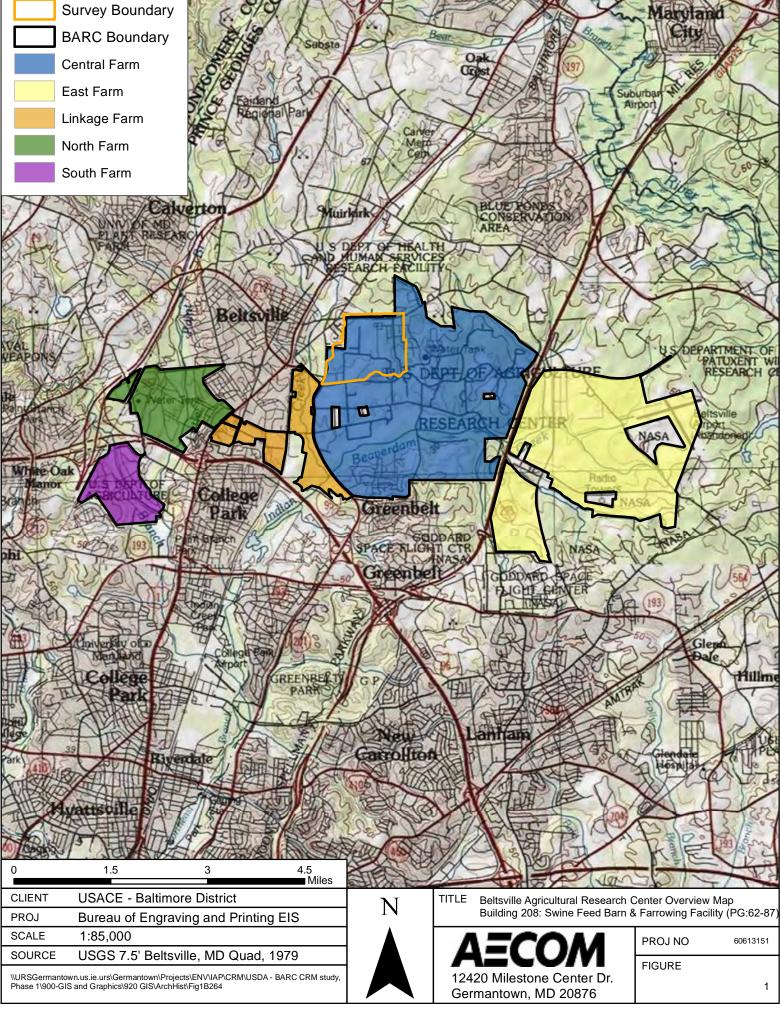
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

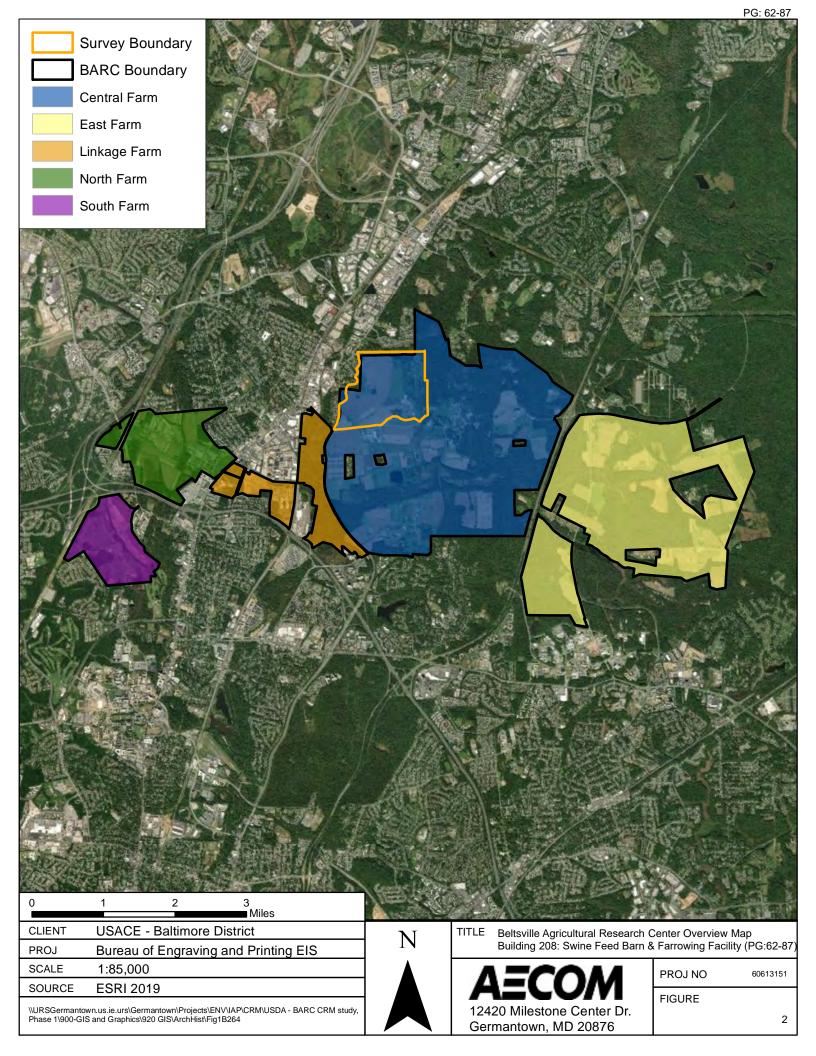
1940 Swine Feed Barn. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville Research Center, Beltsville, Maryland. Bureau of Animal Industry. On file, Architectural Drawings Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 203, BARC.

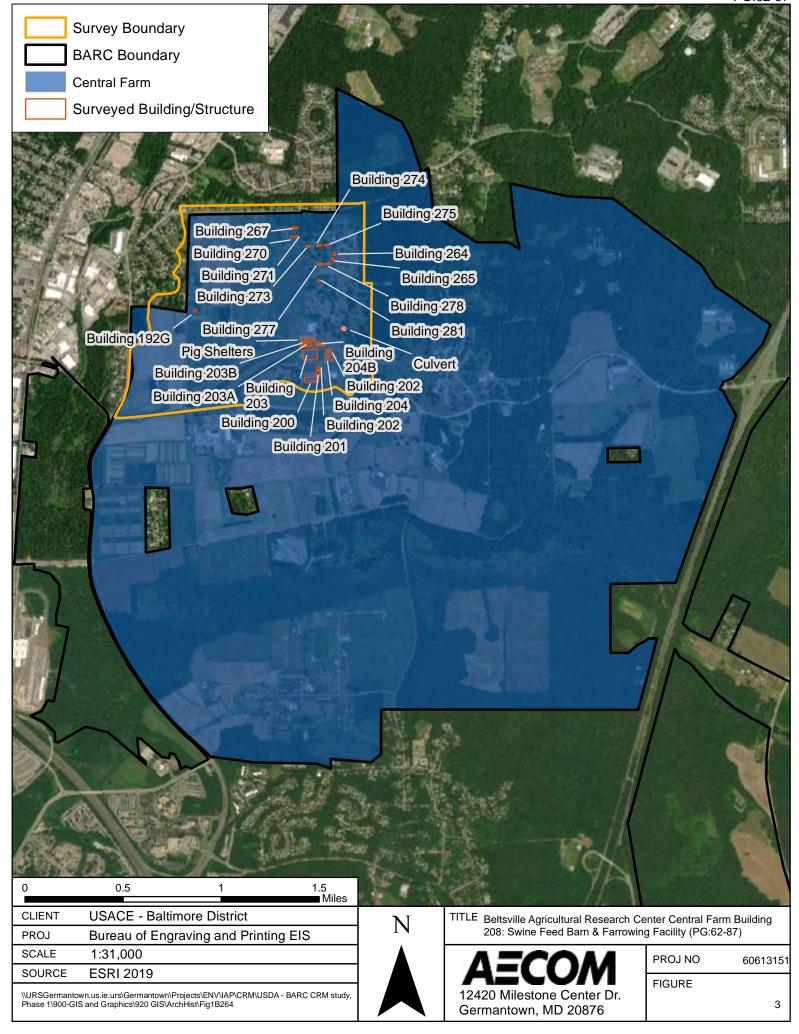
1974 ARC-East, Animal Husbandry Area. Site Plan and Utilities for New Sow Farrowing Unit, Bldg. #208G, National Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, MD. Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Division of Operations, ARC Engineering and Maintenance. On file, Architectural Drawings Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 203, BARC.

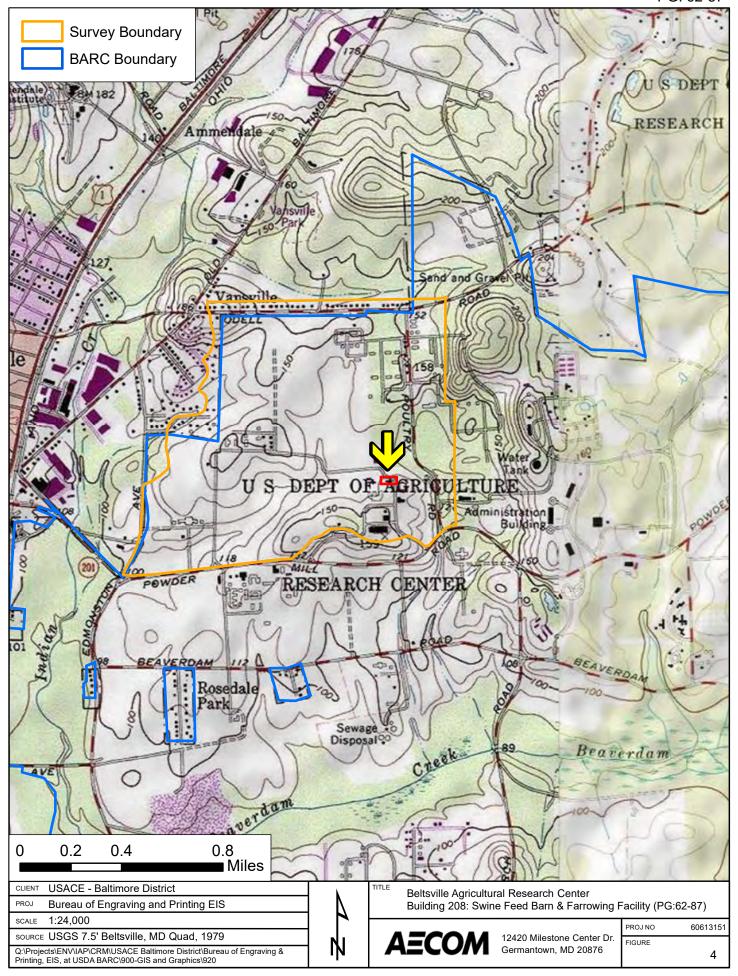
Addition to Building 208, Swine Farrowing Facility, Elevations & Sections, Architectural. Division of Operations, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, MD 20704. On file, Architectural Drawings Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 203, BARC.

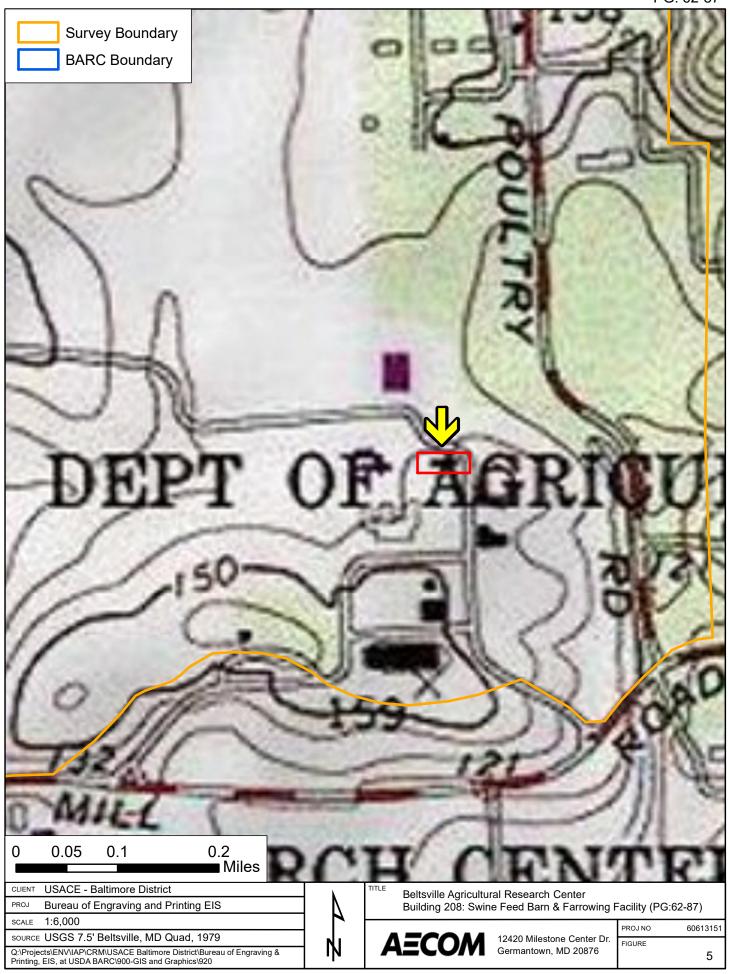
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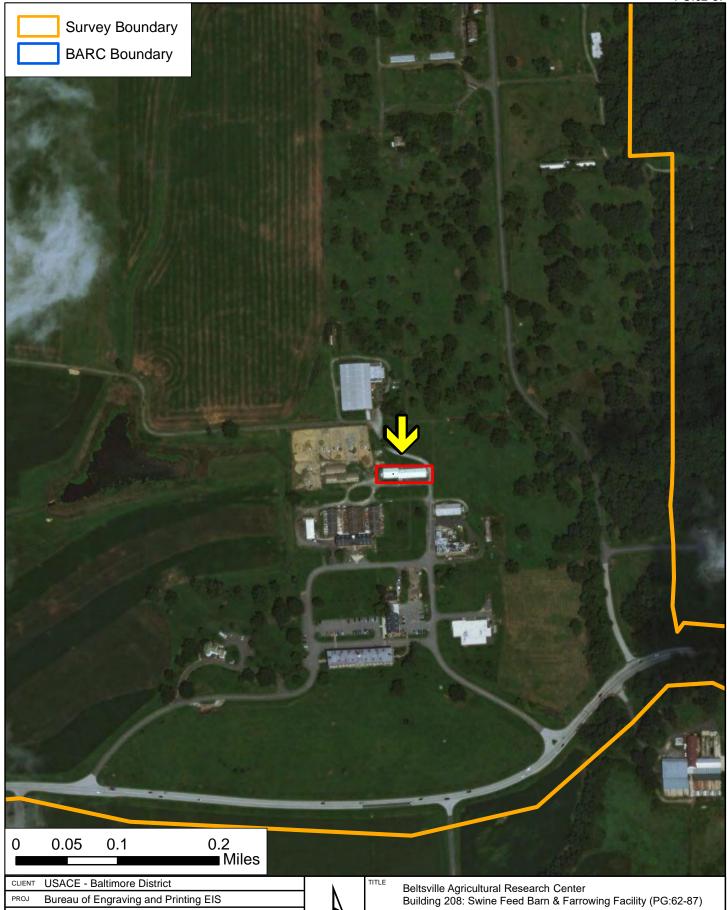












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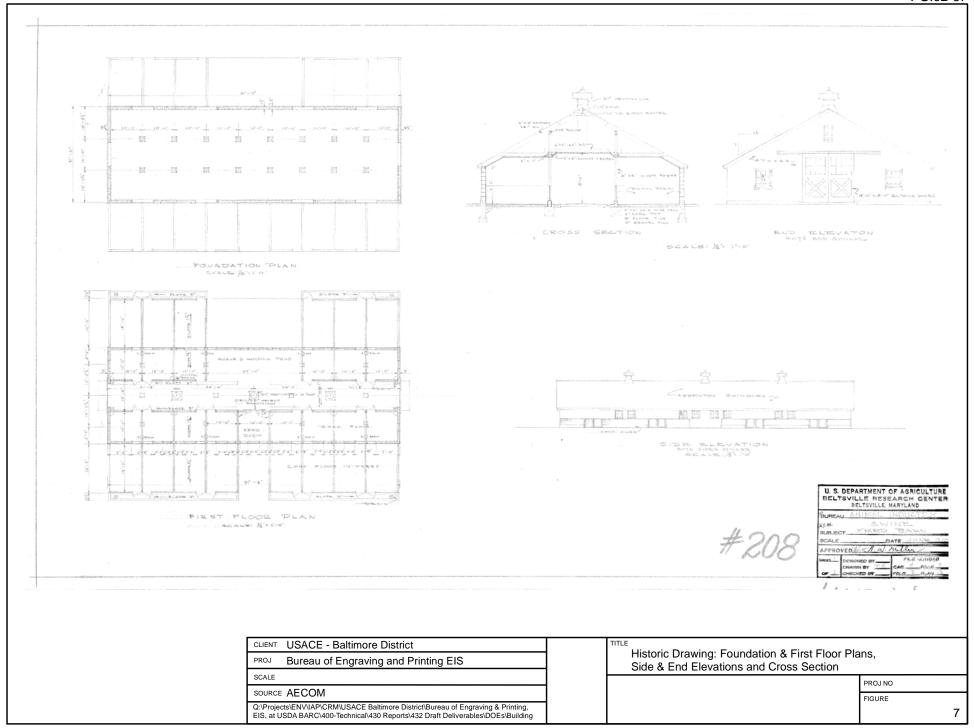
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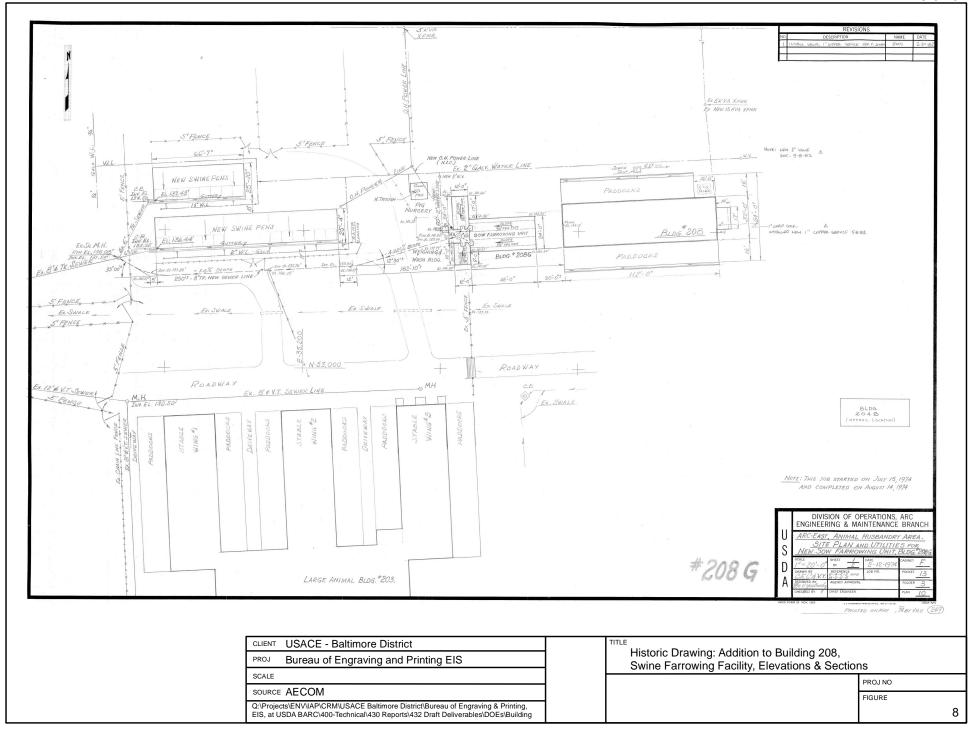


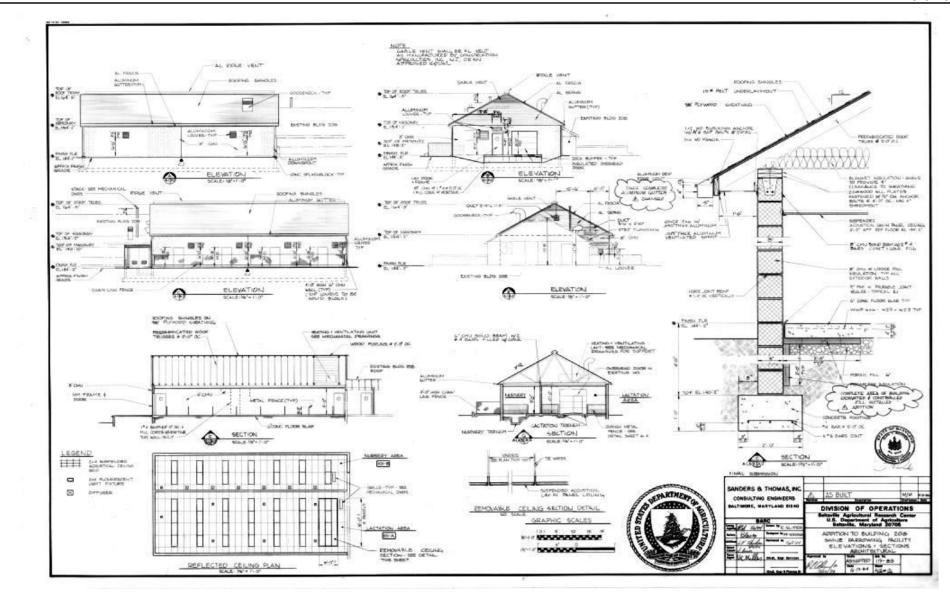
12420 Milestone Center Dr. Germantown, MD 20876

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FIGURE







CLIENT USACE - Baltimore District	TITLE
PROJ Bureau of Engraving and Printing EIS	Historic Drawing: Addition to Building 208, Swine Farrowing Facility, Elevations & Sections
SCALE	PROJ NO
SOURCE AECOM	
Q:\Projects\ENV\IAP\CRM\USACE Baltimore District\Bureau of Engraving & Printing,	FIGURE 9

Photograph Log PG:62-87

USDA

Bureau of Engraving and Printing EIS Building 208: Swine Feed Barn & Farrowing Facility 10300 Baltimore Avenue, Central Farm

Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Christina Sabol, Architectural Historian

June 2, 2020 MD SHPO

Archival Black and White Photographs and Digital Photographs for the Maryland Historical Trust.

1. PG:62-88_2020-06-02_001.tif, Building 208, Swine Feed Barn & Farrowing Facility, Central Farm, View of South Elevation, Looking North



Photo 1 - Building 208, Swine Feed Barn & Farrowing Facility, Central Farm, View of South Elevation, Looking North

CLIENT	USACE - Baltimore District
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SCALE	-
SOURCE	AECOM

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TITLE Photographs
Building 208: Swine Feed Barn & Farrowing Facility (PG:62-87)



PROJ NO	60485181
FIGURE	